

From Seats of Learning to Globally Distributed Virtual Learning

Subtech 2002

Peter W. Martin

LII

Cornell

Techno Determinism

“Thirty years from now the big university campuses will be relics. Universities won't survive. It's as large a change as when we first got the printed book.”

Peter Drucker, Forbes, March 10, 1997

“In future years we will look upon the wired remains of our once great democratic higher education system and wonder how we let it happen.” David Noble, Digital Diploma Mills (2002)

Proposed ABA Standard 306(d)

(d) A law school shall not grant a student more than four credit hours in any term, nor more than a total of 12 credit hours, toward the J.D. degree for [distance education] courses

Why such limits?

“Total or even substantial dependence on distance education can have a serious negative effect on law students by limiting the socialization and developmental process.”

Arthur R. Gaudio, Dean, Western New England College of Law

Resistance to Greater Access – An Old Story

- GI Bill – Insufficient capacity
- Pell grants – Unqualified students
- Federal loans – Impossible administrative burdens

Potential Gains of On-Line Distributed Learning

- Greater access to existing programs
- New audiences
- Expanded human and information resources
- Greater curricular flexibility for students
- Better learning outcomes
- Reduced cost

Some Major Inhibitors


- Matrix surrounding individual faculty
- Institutional governance
- Legacy skills and mindset
- Brand concerns
- Accreditation and regulation

Governance

“Universities have a style of governance that is more adept at protecting the past than preparing for the future.”


James J. Duderstadt, *A University for the 21st Century* (2002)


Chicago-Kent's Executive JD

*Chicago-Kent College of Law
Executive Juris Doctor Program*

Chicago-Kent College of Law
Illinois Institute of Technology

Visitors	Prospective Students	Current Students	Faculty	Events
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 ejd.kentlaw.eduSM

Chicago-Kent College of Law's new web-based distance learning part-time executive JD program consists of two elements: intensive on-site educational sessions and web-based off-site education. The eJD program curriculum will be part of Chicago-Kent's existing four-year night division program.

Students can earn advanced degrees without losing their place in their career track. The students benefit and enrich the quality of the program by bringing a wealth of life and work-related experience into the classroom.

The availability of these courses is contingent upon sufficient enrollment.

Legacy Skills and Mindset

Classroom as a:

- Place of performance
- Zone of control
- Source of reassurance
- Limit on student demand

Brand Concerns



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Concord University Faculty

Dear Law Student:

Over the past 35 years of teaching the law, I have devoted a considerable amount of attention to communicating legal principles and education through various media. This has included print, on which I have been fortunate to author or co-author various legal casebooks, textbooks, and other supplemental study aids, as well as create audiotapes, videotapes, television programs and the like. The focus of all of these projects has been to assist people in all walks of life, including those who do not have access to a legal education because of time or other reasons but, who would like to understand some of the principles of American jurisprudence so that they can better conduct their everyday lives.



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Regulation & Accreditation

“While there is competition among institutions for students, faculty, and resources – at least in the United States – the extent to which institutions control the awarding of degrees has led to a tightly controlled competitive market.”

James J. Duderstadt, *A University for the 21st Century* (2002)

Not Whether, but Who, Where & When?

- The on-line (or mostly on-line) degree program
- The integration of academic study and experiential learning
- Established institutions as delivery points and degree issuers

Shifting to a Different Setting

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Education for the Knowledge Age

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---MIT News ----BBC NEWS

**African Virtual University receives 2002 ComputerWorld Honors
21st Century Achievement Award**

Different Forms of Technology Penetration



Different Forms of Technology Penetration



But Similar Institutional Issues

- Registration and credit
- Financial consequences
- Regulatory constraints
- Incentives and rights surrounding ongoing offerings

Institutional Motivators

- Need
- Greed
- Fear